

Supervisor Romaine and Councilwoman Cartright Visit Old Field Club and Farm, Newly Listed on National Register of Historic Places

posted on 3/11/2016 10:48:00 AM



Farmingville, NY – On March 9, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright visited the Old Field Club and Farm in East Setauket to recognize with a proclamation their listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Pictured left to right at the Old Field Farm are Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn, Old Field Club member Kerri Glyn, Town Historian Barbara Russell, Old Field Farm Founder and President Sally Lynch, Councilwoman Cartright and Supervisor Romaine.

The Old Field Farm is an historic Long Island show grounds with a long equestrian tradition. Long Island philanthropist Ward Melville built the farm in 1931. He commissioned architect Richard Haviland Smythe (1899-1965) to create a unique equestrian facility located on a distinctive waterfront setting on Long Island's North Shore. The stable complex is composed of a main barn and courtyard, numerous free standing stables and a large, old fashioned wooden grandstand, all designed in the Colonial Revival style. It is located on 13 scenic acres in the historic Three Village area adjoining 88 acres of protected wetlands overlooking Long Island Sound on the north and the West Meadow Creek wetlands to the south, an area which has been designated "outstanding natural coastal area" (ONCA) by New York State.

The Old Field Club was built by the Melville family in 1929 to be used as a swim club. It later became a private tennis and beach club and today it is a popular catering facility. Ward Melville founded the club as an additional amenity for new owners within the neighborhood and previous residents alike. The clubhouse was built on eight acres adjacent to the Long Island Sound and included a club house, tennis courts, private sandy cabana beach, a newly built tidal bathing pool and deep waterways for boating and mooring. Like the farm, the architect for the clubhouse and beach cabanas was Richard Haviland Smythe who was known for his Colonial Revival designs.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone 631-451-6595